FIRST COMICS®

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DYNAMO JOE™

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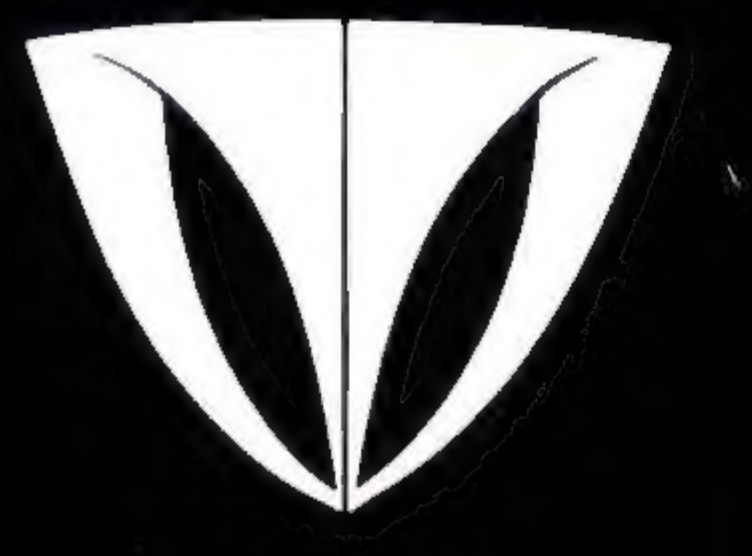
WHO ARE THESE GUYS, ANYWAY?



It is a new age, more than a thousand years hence, yet human nature has changed little. The forces and conditions that have bred wars in the centuries gone by now breed a different kind of war, a new breed of warrior. One of these new warriors is the robosoldier **Dynamo Joe**. This is his story.

Only three civilizations exist in our spiral of the galaxy, the greatest being the **Terran Confederation**, centered on Earth. The galaxy is shared with the cat-like **Tavitans**, with their home planet of Londree, and a benign master race, the **Imperium**, led by the enigmatic, immortal **Magna Khan**.

The two man crew of **Dynamo Joe** consists of:

1) **Sergeant Elanian Daro**: citizen of the Imperium.

2) **Private Pomru Purrrwakawaka**: a young Tavitan out to see the Universe. Pomru is an ardent fan of old Earth culture and mimics it whenever he can.

Ten years before the start of this story, the planets at the Galactic rim fell under attack by a bizarre extra-galactic enemy called the **Mellenares** -- millions of microscopic organisms linked together to form a single group consciousness, and possessing the ability to read minds. The foe moves at sub-light speeds, in an obsessive straight-line, devouring planets in its path. All attempts at communication have been frustrated; no envoys returned alive.

LAST ISSUE: A mysterious and ominously silent super battlesuit appeared, while civilians inexplicably began to steal space vehicles and head *toward* Mellenares space.

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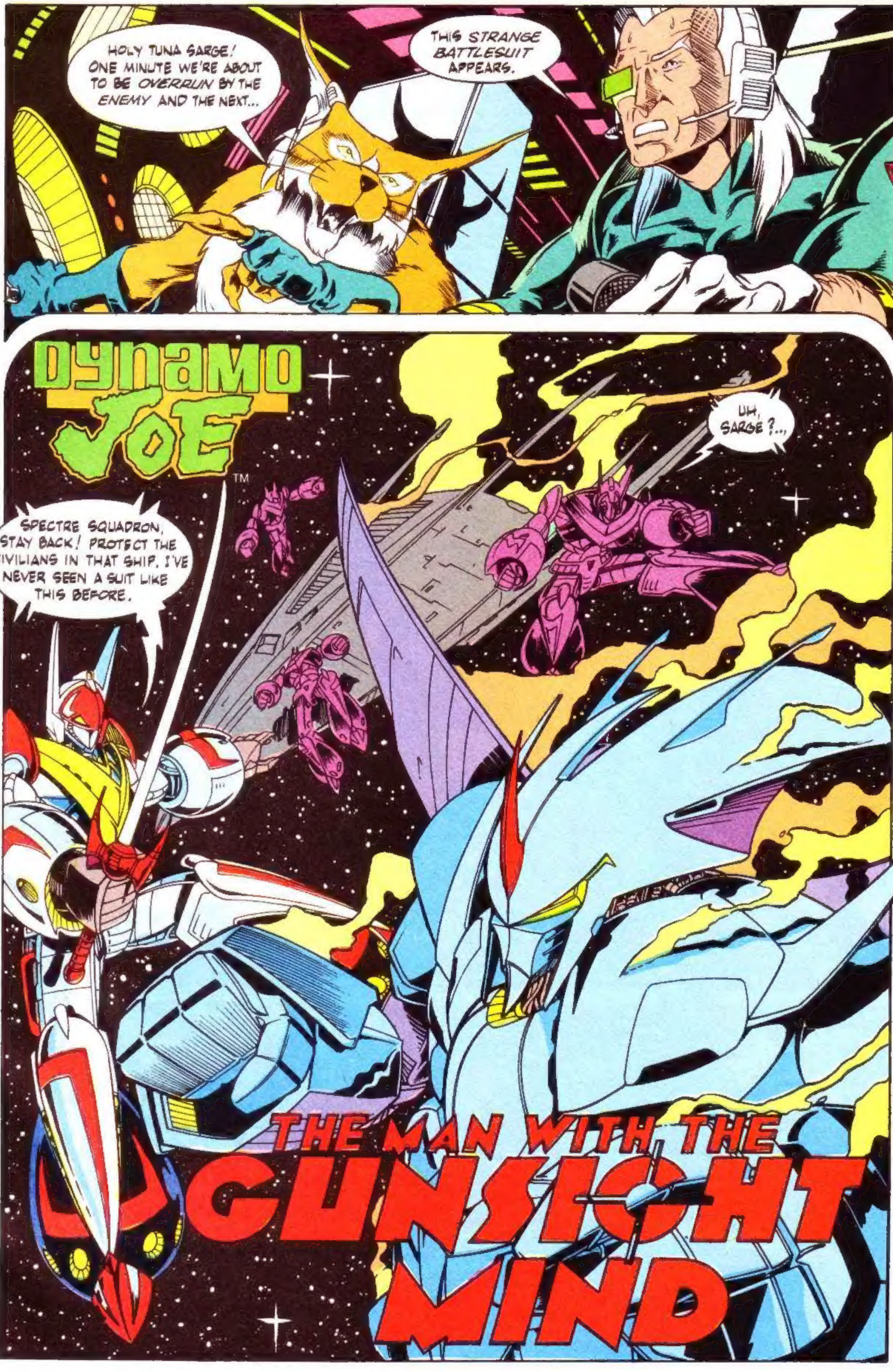
HOLY TUNA SARGE! ONE MINUTE WE'RE ABOUT TO BE OVERRUN BY THE ENEMY AND THE NEXT...
THIS STRANGE BATTLESUIT APPEARS.
DYNAMO JOE
TM
SPECTRE SQUADRON, STAY BACK! PROTECT THE CIVILIANS IN THAT SHIP. I'VE NEVER SEEN A SUIT LIKE THIS BEFORE.
UH, SARGE?...
THE MAN WITH THE
GUNSIGHT MIND

"I DON'T THINK THE MELLENARES HAVE EITHER."

INDEED, SPECTRE SQUADRON IS *IGNORED* AS THE ENEMY CONVERGE UPON THE NEW-COMER WITH A *HOSTILITY* EVEN MORE PRONOUNCED THAN USUAL.

THE ALIEN BATTLESUIT ALLOWS THEM TO APPROACH...

UNTIL THEY ARE TOO CLOSE...

TO ESCAPE!

ITS WEAPONS ARE TERRIFYING.

ITS SPEED IS BLINDING.

LOOK AT IT GO, SARGE! CAN WE DO ANYTHING TO HELP?

YES, STAY OUT OF HIS WAY!

THE MELLENARES TRY TO FIGHT BACK...

BUT THEY ARE LIKE WEEDS FIGHTING A LAWNMOWER.

HE *GOT* THEM... HE GOT *ALL* OF THEM!

NOW WHAT?

NOW WE GO HOME AND LET *HIM* WIN THE WAR IN PEACE.

NEGATIVE. WE ESCORT HIM BACK TO SIGMA BASE...

...IF THAT'S OKAY WITH YOU.

HEY TIM, DO YOU REALLY THINK WE CAN *HANDLE* HIM?

GET SERIOUS. THERE'S FOUR OF US, AND WE'VE GOT HIM *SURROUNDED*, SO...

HAWKEYE!! LOOK OUT!!

WHAT THE-?

...SO IN A WORD, NO!

SIGMA BASE, WE'RE BRINGING IN A... GUEST. PLEASE HAVE AN *HONOR GUARD* READY AT DOCK 12. A REALLY *STRONG* HONOR GUARD.

AFTER YOUR CALL I EXPECTED SOMETHING A LITTLE *MORE FORMIDABLE*, SQUADRON LEADER.

IF YOU'D SEEN THIS BATTLE-SUIT IN ACTION, *BOLAN*, YOU'D WISH YOU HAD SOMEBODY BACKING UP YOUR *GALAX-Cs*. I SINCERELY HOPE HE IS ON *OUR SIDE*, BUT I'LL GLADLY SETTLE FOR HIS NEUTRALITY.

SECURITY! GET THIS AREA PRESSURIZED AND GET THESE PEOPLE *OUT* OF HERE!

GOOD DAY, MR. KIRCHNER, YOU ARE WELL, I TRUST?

OH, AS WELL AS CAN BE EXPECTED, GENERAL, CONSIDERING THAT SOMEBODY ORDERED ALL THE GALAX-Cs OVER HERE SO THAT THEY COULD STAND AROUND NOT WORKING ON THE BELT. SO WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT THIS NEW BATTLE-SUIT ANYWAY?

IT APPARENTLY SAVED THE LIVES OF THE SQUADRON I HAD TO DIVERT TO BRING BACK THE HIJACKED SHIP THAT YOU LET ESCAPE.

I WAS JUST LEAVING.

MOVE IT PEOPLE, QUICKLY AND QUIETLY.

BUT YOU HAVE TO LET US GO... THEY NEED US.

YES YOU MUST... BY THE PIT, WHAT IS THAT?

"SIR? WE'VE JUST DEBREIFED SPECTRE SQUADRON BY REMOTE. HERE'S THE SUMMARY OF THEIR REPORTS. IT MAY HAVE BEEN A MISTAKE TO ALLOW THAT BATTLESUIT INSIDE"

"THESE ARE PREPOSTEROUS, CAPTAIN."

"NO SIR, GENERAL, PLAYBACK OF THE DYNAMO UNITS' COMPUTER RECORDER VERIFY THESE REPORTS. THIS THING IS A SUPER SUIT. WE CANNOT ESTIMATE ITS FULL CAPABILITIES."

"I SEE. AND THERE HAS BEEN NO WORD FROM THE PYLOT?"

"NO SIR. NOT A WORD."

"HE HAS NOT **BROADCAST** ON ANY DETECTABLE RADIATION SPECTRUM OR **RESPONDED** TO ANY OF OURS."

"HIS SUIT IS ALSO **IMPERVIOUS** TO ANY OF OUR SCANNING EQUIPMENT."

"HE SEEMS TO BE WAITING FOR SOMETHING."

"WE'RE BRINGING UP HEAVIER EQUIPMENT, SO IF HE GETS ROWDY..."

"WE'LL BE READY FOR HIM."

THE HIJACKED SHIP HAS BEEN MOVED, AND SECURITY IS...

"HE HASN'T MOVED SINCE ASSUMING HIS CURRENT POSITION."

THIP!

AK!

INEXCUSABLY LAX.

WHAT?

HELLO, GENERAL. I SUGGEST YOU READ *THIS* WHILE YOUR AIDE CATCHES UP ON HIS SLEEP. ITS FOR YOUR EYES ONLY.

THIS IS FROM *DIRECTOR KETTER!* HEAD OF THE *TERRAN* GOVERNMENT!

SO, YOU ARE *COLONEL KAUTRAVERS*, AND YOU ARE HERE TO FIGHT FOR US.

'AT'S RIGHT, SIR. I HEARD YOU FOLKS STILL HAD SOME TROUBLE OUT HERE AND MIGHT NEED A HAND.

YOU ARE A *MERCENARY*, DA? I THOUGHT YOU HAD ALL RETURNED TO... NOW WHAT IS ITS *NAME* AGAIN?

SORRY GENERAL, ONLY YOUR DIRECTOR KETTER KNOWS WHERE TO SEND MY CHECKS. HUSH-HUSH Y KNOW.

DA, I KNOW. YOUR BATTLESUIT— IT IS MOST IMPRESSIVE.

AN' IF YOU DON'T GIVE IT TO US...

WE'LL GO *FIND* IT.

DAMN STRAIGHT, GENERAL. THIS IS *WOLF 1*, THE BEST DEATH-DEALIN' MACHINE YOU'LL EVER SEE AND STILL WALK AWAY FROM. NOW WE COME A *LONG* WAY T'GET HERE, GENERAL, AN' *OUR* ONLY *CONDITION* FOR WORKIN' FOR YOU IS THAT WE GET T'SEE A LOT OF *ACTION*.

"INTERROGATION SESSION NUMBER 51
SUBJECT RICHARD LAWRENCE TAYLOR, NAVIGATOR/SEVEN SISTERS. MARSPORT LICENSE NUMBER 7750056GAA. CHARGED WITH HIJACKING AND ENDANGERMENT OF MILITARY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL.
BEGIN INTERROGATION."

WHY DID YOU HIJACK THE SHIP, RICK?

NO ONE WOULD LET ME GO TO THEM. I *HAD* TO GO TO THEM.

GO TO WHOM?

I DON'T KNOW... CAN'T YOU *HEAR* THEM? I HAVE TO GO TO THEM!

THEM... DO YOU MEAN THE *MELLANARES*, RICK?

NO... YES... I DON'T KNOW... I JUST HAVE TO GO.

WHAT DO THEY *WANT* RICK?

I DON'T KNOW! THEY WON'T TELL ME!

COULD HE BE LYING?

WITH A DOUBLE DOSE OF DIOGENES SERUM IN HIM? NO WAY SIR. YOU'VE GOT YOURSELF ANOTHER *DREAMER* HERE.

WE ARE GETTING MORE AND MORE OF THEM, CIVILIANS COMPELLED TO SEEK OUT THE ENEMY, FOR REASONS EVEN *THEY* DO NOT KNOW. THEY ARE A *DANGER* TO MY MEN THAT I CAN NO LONGER JUSTIFY. I ALMOST LOST A SQUAD RETRIEVING THIS ONE. FROM NOW ON, IF THEY MAKE IT TO ENEMY TERRITORY, THEY ARE ON THEIR OWN.

WORK CONTINUES ON THE KIRCHNER BELT.

ROGER, TROJAN SQUAD. YOU ARE LOOKING GOOD, OVER.

MAGNETIC FIELD GENERATORS ARE IN POSITION.

TROJAN 4, ADJUST YOUR COURSE BY .014 - THANK YOU.

MR. KIRCHNER? THE GALAX-Cs ARE BRINGING IN THE MATERIAL FOR SECTION 28.

BEGIN MAGNETIC FIELD GENERATORS ACTIVATION SEQUENCE ON MY SIGNAL...

HEY - YOU OKAY MR. KIRCHNER?

WHAT? OH, I'LL BE FINE, IF I COULD JUST HEAR MYSELF THINK.

OH, THE RADIO CHATTER GETTING TO YOU? NO PROBLEM, I'LL TURN IT DOWN.

TROJAN 2 AND 4 ASSUME POSITIONS...

NO, NOT THOSE VOICES...

(DOESN'T ANYBODY ELSE HEAR THEM?

TROJANS IN RANGE.

HOLD ON A MINUTE, MR. KIRCHNER. OVERSEER 9, REPORT PLEASE.

MAGNETIC JENNYS ARE ON LINE AND FIELD IS ESTABLISHED. WE CAN SAFELY BEGIN NEXUS ALIGNMENT

TROJANS 2 AND 4 PREPARE TO SYNC WITH MAGNETIC GENERATOR AND BEGIN MATERIAL FEED OVER.

ROGER CONTROL, WE ARE SYNCED AND READY TO FORM SECTION NEXUS.

VOICES... TOO MANY VOICES.

ROGER TROJAN 2, YOU ARE LOOKING GOOD.

CAN'T HEAR... CAN'T UNDERSTAND.

TROJANS 3 AND 5 MOVE INTO POSITION TO BEGIN FOLLOW-UP. TROJANS 2 AND 4 GO TO HALFSPEED.

THERE'S TOO MUCH INTERFERENCE... SHUT UP... SHUT UP!

RANGE FROM MAGNETIC FIELD GENERATOR ONE KLICK AND CLOSING.

SHUT UP!

CHOK!

KIRCHNER!! YOU HIT THE OVERRIDE!

BANG

SQUEEEEEEEEEEEEE

ABORT! ABORT! MAGNETIC FIELD HAS COLLAPSED! BACK OFF BEFORE —

AND THEN?

WELL GARGE, THEN KIRCHNER *DISAPPEARS!* LEAV-ING TWO GALAX-C4 TOTALLED, THREE CREWMEMBERS INJURED AND A WHOLE SECTION OF THE BELT THROWN OUTTA WHACK. SECURITY IS GOIN' BONANZAS TRYIN' TO FIND HIM — AND WHEN THEY DO, *PRINCE SHITAN* WANTS HIM HUNG OUT TO FREEZE-DRY. AT LEAST FUR ONCE IT AIN'T *OUR* PROBLEM.

ATTENTION... SERGEANT DARO AND PRIVATE POMRU PLEASE REPORT TO ROOM 1056-A, IMMEDIATELY.

AW FUR THE LOVE OF BENJI... *NOW* WHAT?

POMRU... YOU HAVEN'T MADE ANY MORE *MODIFICATIONS* IN THE SUIT WITHOUT TELLING ME HAVE YOU?

ER... AH... NOTHING THEY COULD'VE *FOUND*.

THIS SOON I THINK.

IT WAS A *MISTAKE!* I'LL *FIX IT!* I'LL *PUT IT BACK!* I'LL *PUT 'EM ALL BACK!!* I'LL.. EEK!

PRIVATE, YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO... OH!

SIR!

AT EASE. COME IN.

I REALIZE THAT THIS IS A LITTLE *OUT OF THE ORDINARY*, BUT THEN, ACCORDING TO YOUR RECORDS, SO ARE YOU. SO YOU HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR A *SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT*. THIS IS THE UNKNOWN BATTLESUIT YOUR SQUAD BROUGHT IN. IT'S DESIGNATION IS *WOLF 1*

THE PILOT FINALLY TALKED TO SOMEBODY?

DA, HE DID. HIS NAME IS COLONEL VAUTRAVERS, AND HE IS TO BE PLACED IN SPECTRE SQUADRON UNDER YOUR COMMAND SERGEANT DARO.

SO MUCH FOR THE *SIMPLE* PART.

I HAVE READ REPORTS PRIVATE, ON YOUR PENCHANT FOR *UNAUTHORIZED* MODIFICATIONS TO YOUR BATTLESUIT.

IT WAS A MISTAKE! I'LL FIX IT! I'LL...

NYET! NYET! YOU MISUNDERSTAND. I WANT *YOU* TO STUDY WOLF 1, I WANT TO KNOW HOW WE CAN *MODIFY* OUR OWN SUITS TO DO WHAT IT DOES. OR AT LEAST BE ABLE TO STOP IT.

YOU MEAN YOU *WANT* ME TO... THANK *YOU*, SIR!!

YOUR JOB SERGEANT DARO, WILL BE TO STUDY VAUTRAVERS.

HMMM. AND WHERE DOES HE COME FROM, SIR?

THIS IS THE QUESTION I MYSELF AM MOST CURIOUS ABOUT. WHAT HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE *RIM MERCENARIES*, SERGEANT?

AFTER THE *RIM BATTLE MASSACRE* AND BEFORE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DYNAMO CLASS BATTLESUITS, THE ALLIANCE USED *MERCENARIES* TO GAIN TIME. THEY POSSESSED TECHNOLOGY FAR BEYOND OUR OWN, AND WHEN THE ALLIANCE WAS READY TO RETURN TO BATTLE, THEY *VANISHED* WITHOUT A TRACE.

AN EXCELLENT SUMMATION, SERGEANT. I BELIEVE THAT VAUTRAVERS IS ONE OF THESE MERCENARIES. WHY IS HE STILL HERE? WHY DIDN'T HE GO BACK? YOUR WORK IS CUT OUT FOR YOU, DA? HERE ARE VAUTRAVER'S *TRANSFER ORDERS*... AND YOUR OWN AS WELL.

SPECTRE SQUADRON IS BEING TRANSFERRED ABOARD THE ATTACK/TRANSPORT SHIP *LEOPARD* — TANAMARA COMMANDING.

WHAT?!

THINK, PRIVATE, WE'LL HAVE A BETTER OPPORTUNITY TO OBSERVE VAUTRAVERS IN CLOSE QUARTERS

CORRECT.

BUT TANAMARA! THAT'S...

IS LOGICAL.

IS NECESSARY.

IS ORDERS.

IS TROUBLE.

PRIVATE!

VREEP!

NOW WHAT? YES?

WHAT?! WHERE WAS SECURITY?

HELLION BAY 33, SIR. ONE OF OUR HELLIONS HAS BEEN HIJACKED.

LOOKING FOR MR KIRCHNER, SIR.

"BY NOW IT MUST BE ALMOST BEYOND THE PERIMETER."

"THERE'S MORE, SIR. THE HIJACKER..."

"...IT'S MR. KIRCHNER!"

I'M COMING... CAN YOU HEAR ME? I WANT TO HELP YOU... JUST STOP SCREAMING IN MY HEAD!!

NEXT THE ENEMY WITHIN!

CARGONAUTS

AFTER TAKING POSSESSION OF HIS NEW SHIP, THE *STAR OF MILWAUKEE*, CAPTAIN ZEPHRAIM CLANTON HAS TURNED ON THE STARDRIVE.

AIEEEEEEEEEE!

THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN A *MISTAKE*.

Red Tape

CONCLUSION

"THERE IS NO PROBLEM SO BIG OR SO COMPLICATED THAT IT CAN'T BE RUN AWAY FROM." — LINUS VAN PELT

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INKER: *SAM GRAINGER* • LETTERER: *KEN HOLEWCZYNSKI*
COLORIST: *RICK TAYLOR* • EDITOR: *RICK OLIVER*

WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?!

CAP'N, THESE READINGS MAKE NO SENSE!

IT'S GOT TO BE THE STAR-DRIVE! I'M SHUTTING IT OFF...

7 SISTERS

RUSSELL

STAR LINES

CLAN

7 SISTERS

WARP

STATUS

SNAK!

RAD

NAV

COM

CRT

NOW!

DRIVE DISENGAGED — RE-ENTERING 'STEIN SPACE.*

WHEW!

*STEIN SPACE – SHORT FOR EINSTEINIAN SPACE, OR THE NORMAL, SUB-LIGHT SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM

I'VE NEVER SEEN HYPERSPACE LIKE THAT!

MY READOUTS DON'T SHOW ANY MALFUNCTIONS...

BY THE KHAN'S MOTHER-IN-LAW! I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

CAP'N! IN THE *THREE* SECONDS WE WERE IN HYPERSPACE, WE REACHED THE EDGE OF THIS SOLAR SYSTEM. THAT MAKES THIS ONE OF THE *FASTEST* SHIPS I'VE EVER HEARD OF, AND WE WERE STILL *ACCELERATING* WHEN YOU SHUT HER DOWN. I CAN'T EVEN *GUESS* WHAT THIS THING WILL DO WHEN YOU LET IT WARM UP.

WE'RE *NOT* GOING TO GUESS, RUSSEL. SEE WHAT THE *COMPUTERS* GOT TO SAY ABOUT THIS ENGINE OF OURS.

CHECK.

JAZZ, IF THAT THING'LL GET US TO BARTA 5 AS FAST AS YOU THINK IT CAN, THEN YOU'LL HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO TAKE A LOOK AT IT, AND TRY TO FIGURE OUT HOW IT WORKS.

CHECK.

CLANTON

SEVEN

SIS

BACK AT BASE SIX.

PRIVATES JESSON, LIMAN AND CORDELL YOUR TRANSFER ORDERS ARE IN.

'BOUT TIME - HOPELESS ROMANTIC'S BEEN READY FOR.. HEY! THIS DOESN'T RE-AS-SIGN US TO SPECTRE SQUADRON...

WE REPORT TO SOME WARRANT OFFICER.

LIEUTENANT GORMAN?

CORRECT. I'VE REQUISITIONED YOU AND YOUR ROBOT TEMPORARILY FOR A SIMPLE ASSIGNMENT. AN EXPERIMENTAL SHIP WAS ACCIDENTLY RELEASED TO A CIVILIAN. WE'VE GOT TO RECLAIM IT.

ACCORDING TO TELEMETRY, THEY'VE HOVE TO AT SYSTEM'S EDGE, BUT WE HAVE TO HURRY BEFORE THEY TAKE OFF AGAIN.

AYE AYE SIR.

SIR? WOULDN'T THIS JOB BE BETTER SUITED FOR AN INTERCEPTOR?

POSSIBLY, PRIVATE, BUT YOU WERE ALL THAT WAS AVAILABLE.

UH-OH.

PERMISSION TO ENTER THE BRIDGE, CAPTAIN?

PERMISSION GRANTED, GENERAL.

I MUST SAY, IS VERY NICE SHIP.

THANK YOU, GENERAL.

UM... IS THERE ANY PARTICULAR REASON WE ARE NOT MOVING?

THIS IS OUR SHAKEDOWN FLIGHT, GENERAL, WE'RE RE CALIBRATING SOME INSTRUMENTS.

!

?

ATTENTION, STAR OF MILWAUKEE! THIS IS WARRANT OFFICER GOEMAN...

!

TURN THAT THING OFF!

WHAT WAS THAT?

OH, NOTHING, NOTHING AT ALL.

HELLO, JAZZ? I THINK WE'VE KEPT THE GENERAL WAITING LONG ENOUGH, HOW ABOUT WE HEAD OUT *RIGHT NOW*, OKAY?

NO PROBLEM, CAP'N.

LET ME JUST PUT THE ENGINE BACK TOGETHER.

CLICK!

SWITCH TO THE SUBLIGHT ENGINES... AND TRY TO STALL HIM.

AH... SORRY, DID NOT COPY LAST MESSAGE, PLEASE REPEAT, OVER.

THEY'RE MOVING, SIR.

WELL, STOP THEM! FIRE A SHOT ACROSS THEIR BOW!

WHAT?!

WE CAN'T DO THAT!

THAT'S AN ORDER!

YESSIR.

WHAT THE...!

THEY'RE SHOOTING AT US!

THAT IS AN ALLIANCE BATTLESUIT! WHAT IS GOING ON HERE, CAPTAIN?

GENERAL, PLEASE GO BACK TO YOUR SEAT AND STRAP IN, I'LL EXPLAIN LATER!

YOU WILL EXPLAIN IT NOW, BOYCHIK, OR ELSE USED SPACESHIP DEALER WILL HAVE TO EXPLAIN RED SMEAR ALL OVER CAPTAIN'S STATION.

WELL, IF YOU PUT IT LIKE THAT...

AND SO...

STAR OF MILWAUKEE

LIEUTENANT GORMAN, ARE YOU IN THERE?

MY EXACT WORDS, LIEUTENANT GORMAN. DO YOU OFTEN MIS-APPROPRIATE BATTLESUITS TO COVER YOUR BLUNDERS?

UH...

WELL?!

NOSSIR! THIS IS THE FIRST TIME... I MEAN...

RIGHT HERE, CLANTON, THE PARTY'S OVER, MISTER

GORM

INCOMING VISUAL SIGNAL.

WELL, SINCE DIVERTING VITAL EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL DIDN'T SEEM TO TROUBLE YOU, I CAN SEE WHY *RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT* OF A *SUPERIOR OFFICE* WOULDN'T SLOW YOU DOWN.

NOT TO MENTION ENDANGERMENT *AND* HARASSMENT OF *CIVILIANS!*

BUT... BUT THE SHIP...

IS THEIRS! YOU GAVE IT TO THEM, AND YOUR ATTEMPT TO TO TAKE IT BACK CONSTITUTES *PIRACY!* ANY ONE OF THESE CHARGES IS GROUNDS FOR *COURT MARTIAL.*

BUT I'M HAVING YOU ARRESTED FOR *ALL FOUR!* PRIVATE?

SIR?

PLEASE STOP THAT LIEUTENANT SORMAN. I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR *HEAD*, BUT IF YOU KEEP THAT UP YOU MIGHT *DENT* ONE OF OUR *BULKHEADS.*

ENGINE BACK ON LINE CAP'N.

FINE TIMING, MR. STEWERT.

AND SO...

WE FIND THE DEFENDANT GUILTY. TAKE HIM AWAY.

THAT IDIOT BORMAN!

THAT IDIOT, ST. LEWIS! SHE GAVE IT TO THEM.

WE CANNOT ALLOW THOSE DEVICES TO FALL INTO THE WRONG HANDS. ALVERSON AGREES AND SAYS HE'S WORKING ON THE PROBLEM NOW.

WELL, YOU'VE READ THEIR FILES. WHEN CAN YOU GET THE SHIP BACK?

ANY... AH... *RESTRICTIONS*, ALVERSON?

NONE.

MY EARS ARE RINGING.

THAT MEANS THAT SOMEBODY'S TALKING ABOUT YOU.

GIVE ME A BREAK.

WELL, THEY *WILL* BE. AFTER ALL, WE'VE GOT THE FASTEST SHIP IN KNOWN SPACE!

WE'LL BE RICH!

WE'LL BE FAMOUS!

WE'LL BE THE *CARGONAUTS!*

END.

Dear Tabby

C/O FIRST COMICS
435 N. LASALLE
CHICAGO IL 60610

Publishing schedules being what they are, I am writing this letter column a month before our first issue in the new continuing Dynamo Joe series. Luckily, our DJ mini-series generated so much mail, that there's still plenty left to print here.

Dear Sirs:
In response to your offer/plea in the "Dear Tabby" section of the third issue of the Dynamo Joe mini-series, we (being but a small part of a much larger group) offer a resounding YES in support of a Dynamo Joe regular series.

The superb artwork and storytelling of the book make the continuation of the story an endeavor worth your every effort... and the readers' efforts, also. Therefore this letter is offered not only as a plea for the continuation of the series, but also as a first effort to support the book.

R. Dupont, et al.
Syracuse University
Class of 1989

Dear Sirs:
Dynamo Joe is superb. I would like to see it as a regular series.

Mike Davidson
7289 Craydon Dr.
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

Oh, okay.

Dear Doug and Crew:
I just want to say what a nice job you guys did on the Dynamo Joe limited series. The best thing about Dynamo Joe is the artwork. Why can't all robot comic books look like this? Dynamo Joe is so detailed and the lines are drawn so straight that it makes the robots be - lievable. I grew up watching Japanese robot cartoons and so far only Dynamo Joe has matched up to the artwork of those cartoons.

H. L. Fung
840K Pacific Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94133

Gentlemen:
Put me down as a fan wanting to see more of Dynamo Joe. Ostrander and Rice carry giant robot genre material to a new height.

Bruce Mai
Webster Groves, MO

*One of the reasons that they are able to take the "giant robot genre to a new height" is because **Dynamo Joe** is an original creation for comics, not a merchandising tie-in to a pre-existing toy line or a simple adaptation of a television series. **Doug Rice** created **Dynamo Joe** to be a comic book, first and foremost.*

Dear Tabby:
1) If Dynamo Joe is a giant robot, then why does he carry a laser-gun? Like other giant robots, he should shoot lasers, missiles, and other weapons directly out of the battlesuit.
2) Get rid of the Dyna-shields coming out of the forearm and back of the legs of the Dynamo Joe robots! It's stupid! Stuff like that should only come out the back if it has to be used at all.
3) The vibrasword! At least put a glow on it to make it look more powerful. It just looks like a plain sword.

L. Green
5616 Hartman Ave.
Omaha, NE 68104

1) Dynamo Joe isn't like other giant robots.
2) Why is it stupid?
3) Sounds like a good sug - gestion to me.

Dear Mr. Rice and Company:
I read your Dynamo Joe mini-series. I did not read the series prior to it, and I have but a few words to say on the course of the series.

Yes! Yes! Yes! Please continue the DJ series. It was wonderful! Exciting! Colorful! Mr. Rice, your robot design for DJ and the Galax-Cs ranks up there with my favorite mecha designs. You have captured the classic Japanese mecha anime; the stories of romance and honor, the almost human movements of the mecha, and the continuing mystery of the Enemy.

To be clarivoyant for moment, I can see the stories of the future. No, I won't try to steal your job because I can't see the end of these. Will Elanian Daro gain the full glory he seeks? Will he fall for Anda? Will the Rim Battle Massacre be repeated? Will Doug Rice ever do Solar 7 again?

One final note: Dynamo Joe is my first First comic, and it won't be my last. I have begun to read Jon Sable Freelance, and I am trying to find American Flagg!. I can only praise you for your daring in publishing AF! and can only thank you for sharing your genius with us through this medium.

Andrew Kar
6945 Hubbard Hills Dr.
Clarkston, MI 48016

*For those of you who don't know the rather convoluted publishing history of **Dynamo Joe** that Andrew refers to at the start of his letter, here's the Reader's Digest version:*
*1) DJ first appears as a back-up series in the back of **Mars** 10-12.*
*2) DJ re-emerges in the anthology series **First Adven - tures**, issues 1-6.*
*3) The three-issue **Dynamo***

***Joe** mini-series is released in January, February, and March, 1986.*

*4) In September, 1986 (just two months ago) the three-part original DJ story from the back of **Mars** is re-printed in one book as **Dynamo Joe Special** #1, replete with eight new pages of history, character biographies, and cutaway schematics. The same month, DJ makes a guest appearance in **Grimjack** #30.*

5) DJ gets his own monthly series, beginning with issue #4, maintaining the numbering started in the mini-series.

*What is Solar 7? The story that **Doug Rice** did for a magazine called* Just Imagine *which alerted us to the fact that we had this terrific artist sitting in our production department.* Just Imagine *frequently runs stories by talented newcomers and is definitely worth checking out if you haven't done so already.*

Dear First Crew:

First of all, let me commend you on the exceptional job you all did with Dynamo Joe. The paper was white, and the colors were vibrant. The book was obviously put together with great care, which leads me to Doug Rice. His love for the book was evident on every page, in every panel. His talent far exceeds the mundane chores of a production assistant. His work gets better with each passing issue. DJ's unique style makes it one of the most enjoyable series I've ever read.

Gregory Faccone
36 Ridgewood Ave.
Glen Ridge, NJ 07028

*And speaking of artists hiding in our production department, **Paul Guinan,** penciller of our new DJ back-up series -- The Cargonauts -- has been working as a First production assistant for just over a year now. Happy anniversary, Paul!*

Dear Dynamo Crew:

I wanted to write you and let you know that I want Dynamo Joe to continue. It is my favorite comic, with Whisper following in second place. Please don't let the Joe crew go away. Every - thing about the comic is won - derful. Sometime during the near future could you put in a history about the Imperium and how it came about?

Robert Luhrman
8 Runnynede Rd.
Griffin, GA 30233

Dear Tabby:

Dynamo Joe has got to be one of the best comic books I have ever read! You have got to publish it as a regular series.

The only thing that I see that presents a slight problem is where the Dynamo type bots stash all their accessories. If you continue the series, maybe you can include a schematic?

Thad Williams
2904 Roma Terr.
Manhattan, KS 66502

*You're both in luck, Robert and Thad, because in **Dynamo Special** #1 (released just two months ago), we ran eight pages of new material, including not only a full-page DJ sche - matic, but a biography of Elanian Daro and a brief history of the Imperium, too!*

Dear Sirs:

How do the Mellenares build their war machines? Their methods of command and con - trol are now understood, but how can blind, microscopic organisms construct the mas - sive war machines that menace the Confederation?

The next few issues should shed some light on that ques - tion. And speaking of next issue...

NEXT MONTH: Wolf 1 goes into action against the Enemy, while Sigma Base is attacked by an omimous "Enemy Within." By **Doug Rice**, **Phil Foglio**, and **Brian Thomas**. And the Cargonauts ship out for a new adventure. By Foglio, **Paul Guinan**, and **Sam Grainger**.

-- Rick Oliver